

Senate Executive Departments and Administration Committee

Ben Mickens 271-1403

SB 427-FN, relative to the joint committee on employee classification.

Hearing Date: January 8, 2026

Time Opened: 9:11 a.m.

Time Closed: 9:18 a.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Pearl, McGough, Gannon, Altschiller and Reardon

Members of the Committee Absent : None

Bill Analysis: This bill revises salaries for certain unclassified state employees. This bill is a request of the joint committee on employee classification.

Sponsors:

Sen. Lang

Sen. Rosenwald

Sen. McGough

Rep. Schmidt

Who supports the bill: Sen. Tim Lang, Sen. Tim McGough, Sen. Cindy Rosenwald

Who opposes the bill: Daniel Richardson

Who is neutral on the bill: No one.

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Senator Tim Lang:

- As a chairman of Joint Commission on Employee Classifications, over the course of the year we are sent a lot of housekeeping from a range of agencies & positions. This bill summarizes the work done by the Joint Commission.

Senator McGough asked for clarity on if positions, such as Fire Marshall or Director of EMS were being deleted or elevated?

Senator Lang clarified they are being elevated.

Senator McGough asked if Senator Lang could speak to any pay increases?

Senator Lang stated that some positions have increased pay scales, it all depends on how New Hampshire matches up to other states. We are trying to remain competitive with states of similar sizes and responsibilities. All changes, even increases, remain within budget constraints.

Senator Altschiller asked for clarity on the pay increase for Medical Examiners in DOJ?

Senator Lang clarified that these DOJ positions are seeing a shift in pay scale, adjusting the top range up.

Senator Altschiller inquired about the timing of the bill, and why it wasn't brought up last year when a similar bill addressing wages and salaries was considered for the budget. DOJ had declined and did not want to make part-time positions full-time.

Senator Lang expressed that this bill does not actually deal with salary or pay, just the pay scale which is used when advertising and then worked within for those hired. There was a pay range increase in one position which necessitated changes in others.

Senator Altschiller followed up on why this hadn't been addressed in the year prior.

Senator Lang stated that it was because it is not chiefly a budgetary issue and only focused on ranges which the departments can work within.

Summary of testimony presented in opposition: None.

Neutral Information Presented: None.